

Patent Application No. 10/046,295  
Inventors: Lyons, et al.

NC 83,068

**REMARKS / ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1-7 and 9 – 11 were pending and considered in the current Office Action. Claim 11 was allowed. Claims 1 and 3 were rejected. Claims 2, 4-7, 9, and 10 were objected to as dependent on a rejected base claim.

Claims 1-7 and 9-10 have been canceled and as such the rejections of Claims 1 and 3 and objections to Claims 2, 4-7, 9, and 10 have been removed. Claims 17- 24 have been added by this amendment.

Claim 11 has been amended to recite that a metal oxide sample is used, rather than the specific metal oxide V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, and to remove limitations on the heating and cooling steps. Claims 17-24 have been added as being dependent upon Claim 11. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

**Conclusion**

In conclusion, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's Office Action has been fully responded to. Claims 11 and 17 - 24 are in condition for allowance. In the furtherance of compact prosecution, if a personal or telephone interview would help expedite matters, the Examiner is requested to contact Amy Ressing at 202-404-1558.

Kindly charge any additional fees due, or credit overpayment of fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0281.

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

*Amy L. Ressing*

Amy L. Ressing  
Reg. No. 45,814

Correspondence:  
Naval Research Laboratory, Code 1008.2  
4555 Overlook Ave., S.W.  
Washington, DC 20375  
(202) 404-1558